

REMARKS

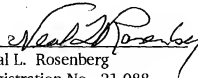
Claims 58-83 and 87-90 are presented for examination.

Claims 89 and 90 are product-by-process claims corresponding to Claims 89 and 90 of the parent application.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, a prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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RELINED VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMSIN THE CLAIMS:

Rewrite Claims 58, 87 and 88 as follows:

58. (Amended) A condrapable hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers, comprising:

(A) a hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having an initial condrapability; and

(B) a fiber surface-modifying agent on said web to form therewith a condrapable hydrophobic web, said agent consisting essentially [comprising] of an amino-modified polydimethylsiloxane;

said condrapable hydrophobic web being characterized by a substantial hydrophobicity, as measured by a strike-through greater than 180 seconds, and by a substantial improvement in condrapability, as measured by a Handle-O-Meter decrease of at least 15% average for MD and CD relative to the initial condrapability.

87. (Amended) A condrapable hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers, comprising:

(A) a non-hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having an initial condrapability; and

(B) a fiber surface-modifying agent on said web to form therewith a condrapable hydrophobic web, said agent consisting essentially [comprising] of an amino-modified polydimethylsiloxane;

said condrapable hydrophobic web being characterized by a substantial hydrophobicity, as measured by a strike-through greater than 180 seconds, and by a substantial improvement in condrapability, as measured by a Handle-O-Meter decrease of at least 15% average for MD and CD relative to the initial condrapability.

88. (Amended) A condrapable nonwoven web of continuous fibers, comprising:

(A) a hydrophilic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having an initial condrapability; and

(B) a fiber surface-modifying agent on said web to form therewith a condrapable web of reduced hydrophilicity, said agent consisting essentially [comprising] of an amino-modified polydimethylsiloxane;

said condrapable web being characterized by a strike-through of at least 10 seconds, and by a substantial improvement in condrapability, as measured by a Handle-O-Meter decrease of at least 15% average for MD and CD relative to the initial condrapability.